

Sharkey, John

From: Erickson, Nathan
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2007 8:24 AM
To: Neace, Thomas
Cc: Sharkey, John
Subject: Utah Well Construction Policy on Mechanical and Drive Shoe "Seals"

Tom,

As you requested I spoke to the well drilling specialist for Utah. Below is his response about drive shoe seals. In my telephone conversation he also mentioned that back in 2000 when they were making revisions to their rules they faced the same issue with drive shoe seals. He said their rules have never addressed and do not currently address drive shoes as being an accepted seal because they have proven to be unreliable. Let me know if you need anything else.

Thank You,
Nathan

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim Goddard [mailto:jimgoddard@utah.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2007 8:05 AM
To: Erickson, Nathan
Subject: Re: Drive Shoe Seal

Nathan,

Based on the Utah Administrative Rules for Water Well Drillers, the use of a drive shoe seal only is not acceptable. Our rules stipulate that to seal above a confining unit (e.g., clay or impermeable consolidated rock), well casing must extend at least five (5) feet into the confining unit and be sealed in place with a minimum 2-inch thick annular seal. We have rarely given a variance to this rule. Hope this helps,

Jim

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>>> "Erickson, Nathan" <Nathan.Erickson@idwr.idaho.gov> 04/12/07 2:17 PM >>>
Mr. Goddard,

As I mentioned to you earlier on the phone, the Idaho Department of Water Resources is in the process of revising the well construction standards. At current we are investigating the ability of drive shoes and driven casing to providing an adequate seal to protect the ground water resource. After having reviewed the well construction rules for Utah, I was unable to identify any reference to the use of drive shoes or casing as an accepted seal. What is Utah's standing on the use of drive shoes or other driven type seals? What experience does Utah have with allowing or disallowing the use of such seals? I appreciate your time and response.

Thank You,
Nathan

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